

§ 134.27

§ 134.27 Decision.

The adjudicative officer shall issue an initial decision on the application as promptly as possible after completion of proceedings on the application. The decision shall include written findings and conclusions on the applicant's eligibility and status as a prevailing party, and an explanation of the reasons for any difference between the amount requested and the amount awarded. The decision shall also include, if at issue, findings on whether the Department of State position was substantially justified, whether the applicant unduly protracted the proceedings, or whether special circumstances make an award unjust. If the applicant has sought an award against the Department of State and another agency, the decision shall allocate responsibility for payment of any award made between the Department of State and the other agency, and shall explain the reasons for the allocation made.

§ 134.28 Further Department of State review.

Either the applicant or Department of State counsel may seek review of the initial decision. If neither the applicant nor the Department of State counsel seeks review, the initial decision shall become a final decision of the Department of State 30 days after it is issued. If review is taken the Judicial Officer will issue a final decision on the application or remand the application to the adjudicative officer for further proceedings.

§ 134.29 Judicial review.

Judicial review of final Department of State decisions on awards as may be sought as provided in 5 U.S.C. 504(c)(2).

§ 134.30 Payment of award.

An applicant seeking payment of an award shall submit to the Comptroller or other disbursing official of the Department of State a copy of the final decision granting the award accompanied by a statement that the applicant will not seek review of the decision in the United States courts. Requests for payment should be sent to: Executive Director, Office of the Comptroller, Room 1328, Department of

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State, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20520. The Department of State will pay the amount awarded to the applicant within 60 days, unless judicial review of the award or of the underlying decision of the adversary adjudication has been sought by the applicant or any other party to the proceeding.

PART 135—UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

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